

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
/GB2004/000724A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01V3/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01V

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 260 661 A (VAIL III WILLIAM B) 9 November 1993 (1993-11-09) column 4, line 34 - line 39 column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 1 column 6, line 25 - line 29 column 7, line 8 - line 44 figure 1	1,2
Y	---	3-10
X	US 6 147 496 A (VAN DER HORST MELIS ET AL) 14 November 2000 (2000-11-14) column 2, line 10 - line 54 column 4, line 28 - line 62 column 5, line 14 - line 26 column 5, line 35 - line 51 column 6, line 11 - line 27 figure 2	1,2
Y	---	3-10
	--- -/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schneiderbauer, K

1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No

/GB2004/000724

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 999 883 A (KRIEGSHAUSER BERTHOLD F ET AL) 7 December 1999 (1999-12-07) cited in the application column 2, line 49 - line 65 column 16, line 61 - line 65	3-10
A	US 2003/011371 A1 (ROSTHAL RICHARD A ET AL) 16 January 2003 (2003-01-16) page 4, paragraph 48 column 5, paragraphs 49,50 figures 6,7	1-10
A	US 5 652 519 A (ROBISON JESSE G ET AL) 29 July 1997 (1997-07-29) column 3, line 30 - line 42 column 6, line 10 - line 29	1-10
A	US 2003/030439 A1 (GAO LI ET AL) 13 February 2003 (2003-02-13) page 1, paragraph 13 page 2, paragraph 30 figure 1	1-10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

/GB2004/000724

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5260661	A	09-11-1993	US 4901023 A 13-02-1990
		US 5065100 A 12-11-1991	
		US 4748415 A 31-05-1988	
		CA 1297153 C 10-03-1992	
US 6147496	A	14-11-2000	AU 707977 B2 22-07-1999
		AU 3442197 A 21-01-1998	
		BR 9710024 A 10-08-1999	
		CA 2256771 A1 08-01-1998	
		CN 1222978 A ,C 14-07-1999	
		DE 69715411 D1 17-10-2002	
		DE 69715411 T2 05-06-2003	
		EA 1862 B1 22-10-2001	
		WO 9800733 A1 08-01-1998	
		EP 0909398 A1 21-04-1999	
		JP 2000514181 T 24-10-2000	
		NO 986210 A 28-01-1999	
		NZ 333980 A 27-03-2000	
		OA 11019 A 10-03-2003	
US 5999883	A	07-12-1999	US 5781436 A 14-07-1998
		US 6044325 A 28-03-2000	
		CA 2209827 A1 26-01-1998	
		GB 2315867 A ,B 11-02-1998	
		ID 17497 A 08-01-1998	
		IT RM970458 A1 25-01-1999	
		NL 1006659 C2 03-09-1999	
		NL 1006659 A1 28-01-1998	
		NO 973206 A 27-01-1998	
		US 5999884 A 07-12-1999	
		US 5854991 A 29-12-1998	
US 2003011371	A1	16-01-2003	US 2002105332 A1 08-08-2002
		GB 2393255 A 24-03-2004	
		AU 765066 B2 04-09-2003	
		AU 9340401 A 20-06-2002	
		CA 2363789 A1 15-06-2002	
		GB 2376076 A ,B 04-12-2002	
		NO 20016101 A 17-06-2002	
		US 2003155924 A1 21-08-2003	
		US 2003146753 A1 07-08-2003	
		US 2003146751 A1 07-08-2003	
US 5652519	A	29-07-1997	US 5892362 A 06-04-1999
US 2003030439	A1	13-02-2003	BR 0203118 A 27-05-2003
		CA 2397168 A1 09-02-2003	
		GB 2382146 A 21-05-2003	
		NO 20023758 A 10-02-2003	